

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-21. (withdrawn)

22. (currently amended) The monoclonal antibody mAbC, wherein the An antibody is characterized by having binding affinity to a sperm cell, wherein the sperm cell bound with the antibody retains the ability to fertilize an oocyte and the antibody comprises monoclonal antibody mAbC, and wherein the antibody is secreted by the hybridoma assigned ATCC accession number PTA-6723.

23. (previously presented) The antibody in claim 22 wherein the sperm cell is a human sperm cell.

24. (previously presented) The antibody in claim 22 wherein the sperm cell is selected from the group consisting of a mouse sperm cell, a bovine sperm cell, a pig sperm cell, a chicken sperm cell, a sheep sperm cell, and a goat sperm cell.

25. (previously presented) The antibody in claim 22 wherein the binding affinity to sperm cells is further characterized by the ability to bind to the sperm cells from a plurality of species of animals.

26. (previously presented) The antibody in claim 22 also exhibiting binding properties to a DNA such that upon fertilization, the DNA is introduced into the oocyte.